

Specialist Science and Mathematics School

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Dear Parents and Carers

## **Important Health Advice for Students**

You will be aware of the recent media coverage about the coronavirus. I am writing to you to reinforce the advice from Public Health England.

The UK Chief Medical Officers have designated the risk to the public as moderate. However the risk to any one individual remains low. Health professionals are working to contact anyone who has been in close contact with people who have the coronavirus.

The current public health advice applies specifically to people who have recently returned from affected regions, which is now broader than just affected provinces in China. If you have recently travelled to an affected region, please follow the advice found at this link:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public

We thought it important to contact all families about the general advice from the NHS about how to stop viruses like the coronavirus spreading. This is as follows: DO:

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately
- wash your hands with soap and water often use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

DON'T:

• do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

We have been in separate contact with the families of students who attended the school ski trip over half term about some specific advice linked to travellers to Northern Italy. This has been in liaison with the advice from Public Health England. If you or your family have returned from Northern Italy (north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini) since February 19<sup>th</sup> please check the advice on the link above.

We hope you understand our obligation to share this advice with you. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any point should you require any clarification in any way. Please contact us immediately about any related health concerns. We thank you, in advance, for your vigilance and support with this complex situation.

Yours faithfully

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Gloria Lowe Headteacher